

Family enterprises, cult-based parties can't effect change: JI

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) Emir Hafiz Naeemur Rehman has said that family enterprises and cult-based political parties cannot bring change in society.

He was addressing the participants of JI's *Ijtima-i-Aam* at Minar-i-Pakistan here on Saturday.

He said that the nation wouldn't allow the government to accept the supremacy of the United States in connection with foreign policy and internal affairs of Pakistan. He said that Islam does not provide immunity to anyone, be it a marshal or a president.

He directed his party workers to invite all political workers without discrimination to join their struggle to change the 'corrupt and dilapidated' system.

Talking about reforms to

empower people, he lambasted the Punjab government and questioned why it had not held local government elections in the past one and a half decade.

Talking about the education sector, he said the provincial governments had allocated tens of billions of rupees for the sector, yet the situation was utterly disappointing.

Taking a dig at PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, he said that he claimed to be a democrat, however, he himself was a typical feudal landlord.

He questioned why the people of rural Sindh were still deprived of their rights.

"A capitalist mindset is making the poor even poorer," he said, adding that the "*Badal Do Nizam*" (change the system) movement must also be expanded within Sindh to eliminate feudalism and

oppression.

If given the opportunity, he promised to fully empower institutions at the grassroots level, establish neighborhood justice committees, and reform the judicial system in accordance with the Constitution.

He said that Bhutto and Imran Khan raised slogans against feudalism, but later made the same feuds their political guardians.

"We will not come to power through anyone's blessings but through the will of the people," he said, adding that corporate feudalism had now replaced traditional feudalism, enslaving the public even further.

He said the movement was committed to establishing equal education for all, ensuring labour rights, and guaranteeing fundamental rights for women according to the Constitution.

Maryam has no role in arranging meetings for prisoners: Azma

Suggests KP CM to study the law; Kundi again rules out governor's rule

Dawn Report

LAHORE/GUJRAT: Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari has dismissed the allegations made by KP Chief Minister Sohail Afridi regarding jail meeting permissions, stressing that Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has no role whatsoever in arranging or influencing meetings between prisoners and visitors.

In a detailed response, Ms Bukhari said that the chief minister "never interferes in the work of any government official," and that all meetings inside jails were strictly governed by established prison rules.

She said that political meetings were categorically prohibited under jail regulations, and the jail superintendent was the "final authority" on all such matters. She explained that prison officials only facilitate meetings between inmates and their immediate family members and that the list of approved visitors was provided by the prisoner himself.

"If an inmate does not wish to meet someone, jail authorities can-

not forcibly arrange such a meeting," she added.

Clarifying the situation of the PTI founder, Ms Bukhari said that he was allowed meetings twice a week and had already held 420 meetings with his lawyers and 189 meetings with his family members. She noted that meetings requested by Bushra Bibi's family were handled separately.

"Yet, every week, a rally is staged outside the jail as if no meetings are being allowed," she remarked.

Criticising Sohail Afridi, the minister said that he should "study the law himself before attempting to lecture others".

She accused him of standing alongside "convicted offenders of the May 9 attacks" and of intimidating government officials during political gatherings.

Meanwhile, KP Governor Faisal Kareem Kundi has again ruled out the possibility of imposition of governor's rule in KP and termed the social media reports of his removal baseless.

He said his Friday's meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was to discuss the law and order situation and other matters related to the well-being of the people in KP.

He was talking to the media at Kothi Nawab Shaib after offering condolences with ex-MNA Nawabzada Ghazanfar Gul on the demise of his brother and veteran parliamentarian Nawabzada Mazhar Ali Khan.

JUI-F MNA from KP Noor Alam Khan, ex-MPA Nawabzada Haider Mehdi, Gujrat PML-N president Tahirul Mulk and other members of Nawabzada family were also present at the occasion.

Mr Kundi said the KP province had been a victim of terrorism but still some elements were unnecessarily opposing even the intelligence-based operation.

He said now the educational institutions had come under attack of terrorists who had also been targeting the police, army and Frontier Constabulary which could not be tolerated. He said the role of federal government and armed forces was vital for the peace and stability in the KP where huge reservoirs of oil, gas and other mines had been found which could become beneficial for the country and the province.

Earlier, he offered prayers for the departed soul.

Meanwhile, former federal minister Chaudhry Wajahat Hussain and his son and PML-Q MNA Hussain Elahi also offered condolences with the Nawabzada family on the death of the ex-MNA.

Wajahat and his son, have been the political rivals of the Nawabzada family for the last three decades in the electoral politics of NA-63 (Jalalpur Jattan-Tanda) of Gujrat district.

Senior PPP leaders Nadeem Afzal Chan, Qamar Zaman Kaira and others also visited the Nawabzada family for the condolences.

Dawn Education Expo attracts large number of students

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: A large number of students from different colleges and universities of the province on Saturday visited the [two-day] 21st annual Dawn Education Expo at Nishat Hotel (Emporium Mall) from 11am to 6pm.

Stalls of more than 80 global universities were established under one roof to guide students about higher education opportunities, scholarships and international admissions.

The event being organised by Dawn Media Group will continue on Sunday (today) and will be free for the visitors.

The event aims to serve as a "gateway to limitless opportunities" for the students

seeking higher education in Pakistan and abroad.

Representatives from universities in the USA, UK, Europe, South Korea, Turkey and several other countries were providing on-spot counselling regarding their degree programmes, eligibility requirements, financial aid and campus life.

The students were offered free career counselling, guidance on student visas and admissions by the dedicated help desks for both local and international scholarship options. The students were also busy filling the forms at the expo to win a laptop through a lucky draw.

The organisers said that on the first day of the exhibition, the students and their parents started approaching after 2pm and the number continued to increase.

They said the visitors were get-

ting maximum details about the expenses, courses, subjects and university atmosphere from the desks.

"Every information is available to them at every desk about national and international universities."

A student, Huzaifa Aslam, told *Dawn* that he had got information about four to five universities. "I belong to Multan and was visiting my relatives in Johar Town and heard about the expo and reached here to get information," he said.

Aslam said he would come on the second day as well and would get further information about other universities and courses.

Another student, Mujtaba Quraishi, said it was good to organise such an event about education.

"I am feeling good after getting information and it will help me pursue a degree in a foreign university."



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REINFORCING THE NEW POPULATION NARRATIVE

10:35 AM, DEC 1 Session two of The Pakistan Population Summit brings together leading experts to outline how Pakistan can secure a sustainable demographic future. Session Chair, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary, Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, frames the national urgency of population planning, followed by a keynote address from Dr. Zeba A. Sathar, Country Director Pakistan, Population Council, who will highlight the critical decisions needed to achieve stability by 2050. Her address sets the stage for insights from Dr. Hanid Mukhtar, Fellow at the Consortium for

Development Policy Research, who will examine economic pressures tied to rapid population growth, and Dr. Ghulam Mohammad Arif, Former Joint Director, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics who will offer a data-driven view of fertility trends and demographic change. Adding an international perspective, Sam Waldoock of the British High Commission will share lessons from global successes. This session invites participants to engage with practical, evidence-based strategies essential for restoring demographic balance, and shaping a more prosperous Pakistan.



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